

HOUSE RESOLUTION 54

By Gilmore

A RESOLUTION to commemorate 2013 Links Day at the Capitol.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that this General Assembly should pause to honor and specially commend those distinguished organizations whose stated goals advance the most noble precepts of human endeavors and whose histories of service in pursuit of those goals stand as outstanding examples to the citizens of this great State; and

WHEREAS, one such estimable organization that evinces the greatest integrity and probity in all its chosen endeavors is The Links, Incorporated; and

WHEREAS, The Links is an international, not-for-profit corporation composed of 12,000 professional women of color who are committed to enhancing the quality of life in their respective communities, which are served by 276 chapters located in forty-one states, the District of Columbia, and the Commonwealth of the Bahamas; and

WHEREAS, accomplished, dedicated women who are active in public and charitable programs, the members of The Links are some of the most influential women in the world; they are business and civic leaders, role models, mentors, activists, and volunteers, and they work assiduously toward a common vision by making The Links synonymous not only with a chain of friendship, but also a chain of purposeful public service; and

WHEREAS, The Links is one of the nation's oldest and largest volunteer service organizations and it is committed to enriching, sustaining, and ensuring the cultural and economic survival of African-Americans and other persons of African descent; the organization is the recipient of prestigious awards from the UN Association of New York and the Leon H. Sullivan Foundation for its esteemed programs and for its consummate 500,000 documented hours of community service contributed annually; and

WHEREAS, built on the principles of advocacy and service, The Links is strongly committed to making a difference in communities across this country and around the world; wherever its members may reside, they strive, both individually and collectively, to achieve equality for the thousands of people who rely on The Links for support; and

WHEREAS, on a practical level, The Links seeks to facilitate positive change through its support of solid initiatives in the arts, services to youth, national and international trends, and health and human services; and

WHEREAS, the numerous contributions of The Links organization and its members have served to perpetuate opportunity and advancement for countless people; and

WHEREAS, on April 3, 2013, the respected members will gather for The Links Day on Capitol Hill, during which time these incredible women from across the State will attend various committee meetings, while other individuals from The Links will meet with their local legislators to discuss bills which impact the members' communities; and

WHEREAS, the women of The Links are wholly committed to the noble precepts of public service that have earned Tennessee recognition as the "Volunteer State." As ambassadors of those very precepts, whether they are Tennesseans or honorary Tennesseans, the members of The Links should be especially recognized; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we commend the members, local chapters, and presidents of The Links, Incorporated, including Chattanooga, President Annette Adams; Hendersonville, President Kristi Faulkner; Jackson, President Christine Hart; Knoxville, President Jonida Robinson; Memphis, President Cheryl Patterson; Music City, President Shirley Corry; Nashville, President Tracy Hardin; Parthenon, President Linda Spears; River City, President Inetta F. Rogers; and Shelby County, President Lillian Brown, for their exemplary service to their respective communities and to this nation and their ongoing commitment to attaining equality for all people, regardless of their race, religion, or socio-economic background.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we welcome the members of the Tennessee chapters of The Links to Nashville on April 3, 2013 as they celebrate Links Day on Capitol Hill.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.